

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 L-03 EB-08 DLOS-09 COME-00
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L/OES-MR. COLSON
EA/ANP-MR. HURWITZ

-----105735 242202Z /14

O 242140Z MAY 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY PORT MORESBY IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 132594

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS, PLOS, FJ, XP

SUBJECT: AMB. OLMSTED'S VISIT TO HONIARA--FISHERIES AGENCY

REF: A. MORESBY 0754 B. STATE'S 105682 C. MORESBY 0615
D. SUVA 0799

1. DEPT BELIEVES AMB.'S VISIT TO HONIARA WILL PROVIDE
USEFUL OPPORTUNITY TO PROBE THE GOSI REGARDING THEIR CURRENT
ATTITUDES TOWARD SPFRA. IN REPORT OF FISHERIES TEAM VISIT
TO HONIARA (REF C) IT WAS NOTED THAT VISIT WAS MAINLY EDU-
CATIONAL EFFORT. WE WOULD BE INTERESTED IN WHETHER GOSI
NOW HAS ANY REACTION TO POINTS MADE DURING THAT VISIT.
SPECIFICALLY, IT WOULD BE OF GREAT INTEREST TO LEARN
WHETHER GOSI IS STILL FOLLOWING GNPNG LEAD ON SPFRA, OR
WHETHERY THEY MIGHT BE AMENIABLE TO COMPROMISE ALONG LINES
SUGGESTED BY FISHERIES TEAM.

2. AS WAS NOTED REF C, A USEFUL SUBJECT FOR FOLLOW-ON
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TALKS WOULD BE CU;RENT EFFORTS TO APPROPRIATE MONIES FOR
USE IN RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM, COOPERATING WITH
SPFRA. TESTIMONY CONTAINED REF B SHOULD BE PASSED TO GOSI
OFFICIALS. DEPT HAS JUST LEARNED THAT PROSPECTS FOR PASSAGE
OF THIS LEGISLATION ARE VERY GOOD INDEED AND WE ARE NOW
HOPEFUL TO ANNOUNCE THAT FACT AT JUNE 5 MEETING.

3. DEPT BELIEVES THAT BEST TECHNICAL LINE TO TAKE WITH GOSI IS TO PLAY UPON BENEFITS WHICH GOSI WOULD DRIVE FROM ESTABLISHMENT OF SPFRA HEADQUARTERS IN HONIARA. WE ARE FRANKLY CONCERNED THAT WITHOUT COLLATERAL INTEREST GOSI WOULD IN FACT FOLLOW GNPNG LINE TO THE HILT. IT COULD VERY WELL BE, HOWEVER, THE PROSPECT OF HOUSING SPFRA HEADQUARTERS IN HONIARA IS SO ATTRACTIVE TO GOSI THAT THEY WOULD MOVE TO A MORE MODERATE POSITION RATHER THAN JEOPARDIZE THIS OCCURRING. SIMILARLY, AN SPFRA WHICH INCLUDES THE US, FRANCE AND OTHERS WOULD OBVIOUSLY BE WELL FUNDED AND MORE LIKELY TO PROVIDE THE SORT OF ECONOMIC BOOST GOSI WOULD LIKE TO SEE.

4. AS REPORTED REF D, SPEC MEMBERS ARE TO ADVISE SPEC BY MAY 24 AS TO THEIR INTERPRETATION OF THE PORT MORESBY DECLARATION. WE WOULD BE VERY INTERESTED IN LEARNING THE GOSI RESPONSE TO SPEC THIS SUBJECT MIGHT HAVE BEEN. FYI: WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED BY AUSTRALIAN EMBASSY THAT GOA HAS RESPONDED TO SPEC INDICATING THEIR SUPPORT FOR A COMPROMISE WHICH WOULD ALLOW THE US AND OTHERS TO PARTICIPATE IN SPFRA. AUSTRALIAN RESPONSE ALSO MAKES POINT THAT IF FORUM MEMBERS CANNOT AGREE AS TO APPROACH WHICH WILL RESOLVE MEMBERSHIP PROBLEM, THEY DO NOT BELIEVE EVEN

AN INTERIM AGENCY CAN BE ESTABLISHED THIS YEAR. END FYI.
CHRISTOPHER
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Message Attributes

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